

CLEAN VERSION OF THE AMENDED CLAIMS

~~30~~ (twice amended) A vertical suitcase of essentially parallelepipedal shape

comprising

(an upper surface part having sequentially a first edge, a second edge, a third edge and a fourth edge and being a formed sheet with a curved form defining an rounded first upper arris at the first edge of the upper surface part and defining a rounded third upper arris at the third edge of the upper surface part;

a front face consisting of supple material and having an opening and having sequentially a first edge, a second edge, a third edge and a fourth edge, wherein the first edge of the front face is joined by the third edge of the upper surface;

a lower surface part having sequentially a first edge, a second edge, a third edge and a fourth edge wherein the third edge of the front face is joined by the first edge of the lower surface part and being a formed sheet with a curved form defining a rounded first lower arris at the first edge of the lower surface part and defining a rounded third lower arris at the third edge of the lower surface part;

a rear face consisting of supple material and having sequentially a first edge, a second edge, a third edge and a fourth edge, wherein the third edge of the lower surface part is joined by the first edge of the rear face and wherein the first edge of the upper surface part is joined by the third edge of the rear face;

a pair of tubes extending between the upper surface part near the first edge of the upper surface part and the lower surface part near the first edge of the

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lower surface part thereby achieving a rigidification of the suitcase by the pair of tubes and wherein the pair of tubes supports the supple material of the rear face, wherein said tubes are disposed adjacent to the rear face;
a retractable handle located on the outside of the upper surface part and including a pair of rods adapted to slide in the pair of tubes, wherein said pair of tubes consists of guides for the rods of the retractable handle;
a flap or panel covering the opening;
closing means for opening the flap or panel;
a first lateral face being made of a supple material and having sequentially a first edge, a second edge, a third edge and a fourth edge, wherein the first edge of the first lateral side adjoins the second edge of the upper surface part, wherein the second edge of the first lateral side adjoins the second edge of the front face, wherein the third edge of the first lateral side adjoins the second edge of the lower surface part, wherein the fourth edge of the first lateral side adjoins the second edge of the rear face;
a second lateral face being made of a supple material and having sequentially a first edge, a second edge, a third edge and a fourth edge, wherein the first edge of the first lateral side adjoins the fourth edge of the upper surface part, wherein the second edge of the first lateral side adjoins the fourth edge of the front face, wherein the third edge of the first lateral side adjoins the fourth edge of the lower surface part, wherein the fourth edge of the first lateral side adjoins the fourth edge of the rear face;
a first elastic retaining ring hooping the first lateral side to the second edge of the upper surface part, to the second edge of the front face, to the second edge of the lower surface part, and to the second edge of the rear face;

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a second elastic retaining ring hooping the second lateral side to the fourth edge of the upper surface part, to the fourth edge of the front face, to the fourth edge of the lower surface part, and to the fourth edge of the rear face, wherein the lower surface part is curved based on curved extremities of the pair of tubes, wherein the upper surface part is curved based on the first lateral retaining ring and based on the second lateral retaining ring, wherein the lateral retaining rings are made of metal, and wherein the lateral retaining rings are furnished in the form of two lateral frames defining the lateral faces in flexible material.

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327 (amended)
(comprising

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an upper surface part having sequentially a first edge, a second edge, a third edge and a fourth edge and being a formed sheet with a curved form defining an rounded first upper arris at the first edge of the upper surface part and defining a rounded third upper arris at the third edge of the upper surface part;

a front face consisting of supple material and having an opening and having sequentially a first edge, a second edge, a third edge and a fourth edge, wherein the first edge of the front face is joined by the third edge of the upper surface;

a lower surface part having sequentially a first edge, a second edge, a third edge and a fourth edge wherein the third edge of the front face is joined by the first edge of the lower surface part and being a formed sheet with a curved form defining a rounded first lower arris at the first edge of the lower surface part and defining a rounded third lower arris at the third edge of the lower surface part;

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a rear face consisting of supple material and having sequentially a first edge, a second edge, a third edge and a fourth edge, wherein the third edge of the lower surface part is joined by the first edge of the rear face and wherein the first edge of the upper surface part is joined by the third edge of the rear face;

✓ a pair of tubes extending between the upper surface part near the first edge of the upper surface part and the lower surface part near the first edge of the lower surface part thereby achieving a rigidification of the suitcase by the pair of tubes and wherein the pair of tubes supports the supple material of the rear face, wherein said tubes are disposed adjacent to the rear face;

✓ a retractable handle located on the outside of the upper surface part and including a pair of rods adapted to slide in the pair of tubes, wherein said pair of tubes consists of guides for the rods of the retractable handle;

✓ a flap or panel covering the opening;

✓ closing means for opening the flap or panel;

✓ a first lateral face being made of a supple material and having sequentially a first edge, a second edge, a third edge and a fourth edge, wherein the first edge of the first lateral side adjoins the second edge of the upper surface part, wherein the second edge of the first lateral side adjoins the second edge of the front face, wherein the third edge of the first lateral side adjoins the second edge of the lower surface part, wherein the fourth edge of the first lateral side adjoins the second edge of the rear face;

a second lateral face being made of a supple material and having sequentially a first edge, a second edge, a third edge and a fourth edge, wherein the first edge of the first lateral side adjoins the fourth edge of the upper surface part, wherein the second edge of the first lateral side adjoins the fourth edge of the front face, wherein the third edge of the first lateral

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side adjoins the fourth edge of the lower surface part, wherein the fourth edge of the first lateral side adjoins the fourth edge of the rear face;

a first elastic retaining ring hooping the first lateral side to the second edge of the upper surface part, to the second edge of the front face, to the second edge of the lower surface part, and to the second edge of the rear face;

a second elastic retaining ring hooping the second lateral side to the fourth edge of the upper surface part, to the fourth edge of the front face, to the fourth edge of the lower surface part, and to the fourth edge of the rear face;

a zip fastener furnished for the opening and furnished on the front face of the suitcase and extending up to at least the ^{said} aforesaid front part over from about 15 to 40% of the surface of the front part and for enabling a partial opening of the front face.

Rule 126

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37. (new) A suitcase of essentially parallelepipedal shape

comprising /

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a front face (60),

a rear face (50) disposed opposite to the front face (60),

a first lateral face (80),

a second lateral face (70) disposed opposite to the first lateral face (70),

an upper surface part (30),

and a lower surface part (40) disposed opposite to the upper surface part (30),

wherein each of the said faces and parts comprises 4 edges,

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wherein the front face (60), the rear face (50), the first lateral face (70) and the second lateral face (80) being each made of a supple material and being each hooped by a retaining elastic rings in the edges of the said faces,

wherein the upper surface part (30) and the lower surface part (40) are being in the form of a molded piece or sheet of plastic of flat form,

a first vertical tube (3) joining the lower surface part (40) and the upper surface part (30), wherein the first tube (3) is disposed adjacent to the rear face (60), a second vertical tube disposed parallel to the first vertical tube (3) and is joining the lower surface part (40) and an upper surface part (30), wherein said second vertical tube (3) is disposed adjacent to the rear face (60), a first rod (14) being moving in vertical direction inside the first tube (3) as a guide,

a second rod (14) being moving in vertical direction inside the second tube (3) as a guide,

retractable handle (4), wherein the first rod (14) and the second rod (14) are being joint with the retractable handle (4).

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38. (new) The suitcase according to claim 34

wherein at least one opening is located in the upper surface part (30), and a flap or panel, wherein the opening is covered by the flap or panel, and

closing means for opening the flap or panel.

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39. (new) The suitcase according to claim 37

23 further comprising

a lower shell (2') extending over a lower part of the rear face (50) along a first rear edge (53) and over the lower surface part (40) along the first rear edge (53) and the lower shell (2') having an upper edge;

an elongated reinforcement part (11') of the lower shell (2') disposed along the upper edge of the lower shell (2') and attached to the lower shell from an inner side of the suitcase;

an upper shell (2) extending over an upper part of the rear face (50) along a third rear edge (51) and over a part of the upper surface part (30) along the third rear edge (51) and the upper shell (2) having a lower edge and having an upper edge;

an elongated reinforcement part (11) of the upper shell (2) disposed along the lower edge of the upper shell (2) and attached to the upper shell (2) from the inner side of the suitcase;

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a rigid reinforcing traverse(18) of the upper shell (2) disposed along the upper edge of the upper shell (2) and attached to the upper shell (2) from the inner side of the suitcase;

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40. (new) The suitcase according to claim 37

wherein the first tube (3) having a flat lower end forming a first bracket extension (9) and having an upper end attached to the upper shell,

wherein the first bracket extension (9) is attached to the lower shell (2') from an inner side of the suitcase and serves as a stop for the first rod (14);

wherein the second tube (3) having a flat lower end forming a second bracket extension (9) and having an upper end attached to the upper shell,

wherein the second bracket extension (9) is attached to the lower shell (2') from the inner side of the suitcase and serves as a stop for the second rod (14);

an outer attachment part (8) having a first outer hole for passing of the first rod (14) and having a first collar for seating an upper end of the first tube (3) and attached to the upper shell (2) from outside of the suitcase and

having a second outer hole for passing of the second rod (14) and having a second collar for seating an upper end of the second tube (3) and attached to the upper shell (2) from outside of the suitcase and

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an inner attachment part (17) having a first inner hole for passing of the first tube (3) and having a second inner hole for passing of the second tube (3) and attached to the upper shell (2) from inside of the suitcase; wherein the upper shell (2) is disposed between the outer attachment part (8) and the inner attachment part (17); a screw attaching the outer attachment part (8) to the inner attachment part (17).

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41. (new) The suitcase according to claim 37 wherein the upper shell (2) and the lower shell (2') are separate and non-adjoining elements; wherein the lower shell (2') extending over the lower part of the rear face (50) along the first rear edge (53) and over the lower surface part (40) along the first rear edge (53) and having the upper edge of the lower shell (2') forms a lower rounded arris (12'); wherein the lower rounded arris (12') furnishes an opening (5') for attachment of an external lateral wheel spindle support arch (5) emerging from the arris (12') of the lower shell (2').

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(new) The suitcase according to claim 37 further comprising

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a first metallic retaining ring defining the first lateral face (80) and attached to a lateral side of the lower shell (2') in the area of the second lower edge and a part of the area of the second rear edge and attached to a lateral side of the upper shell (2) in the area of the second upper edge and a part of the area of the second rear edge;

a second metallic retaining ring defining a second lateral face (70) and attached to a lateral side of the lower shell (2') in the area of the first lower edge and a part of the area of the fourth rear edge and attached to a lateral side of the upper shell (2) in the area of the fourth upper edge and a part of the area of the fourth rear edge;

wherein the upper shell (2) extending over the upper part of the rear face (50) along the third rear edge (51) and over the part of the upper surface part (30) along the third rear edge (51) and the upper shell (2) having a lower edge and having an upper edge and the upper shell (2) forming an upper rounded arris (12) along the third rear edge (51);

wherein the first tube has a flat lower end forming a first bracket extension (9);

wherein the first bracket extension (9) includes a first lower arm and a first upper arm with an upper end, wherein the first lower arm is flat and wherein

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the first upper arm is flat and wherein the upper end of the first bracket extension (9) is of a rectangular cross section for seating the first tube (3); wherein the second bracket extension (9) includes a second lower arm and a second upper arm with an upper end, wherein the second lower arm is flat and wherein the second upper arm is flat and wherein the upper end of the second bracket extension (9) is of a rectangular cross section for seating the second tube (3).

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~~43.~~ (new) The suitcase according to claim 42,
wherein the first metallic retaining ring is an elastic, closed and uninterrupted ring;
wherein the first metallic retaining ring is attached to the lower shell at the second lower edge and at the second rear edge and attached to the second upper shell at the upper edge and at the second rear edge and circling a covering of supple material;
wherein the second metallic retaining ring is an elastic, closed and uninterrupted ring;
wherein the second metallic retaining ring is attached to the lower shell at the fourth lower edge and at the first rear edge and attached to the fourth

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upper shell at the upper edge and at the first rear edge and circling a covering of supple material.

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44. (new) The suitcase according to claim 34 further comprising an opening zipper (20) disposed in the front face of the suitcase and extending at least up to the upper surface part (30) for a partial opening of the upper face,
a flap (15') disposed in the upper surface part and having a surrounding zipper for covering a handle attached to ends of the rods wherein the upper reinforcing part (18) is made of slotted metal and extends over the entire width of the suitcase.